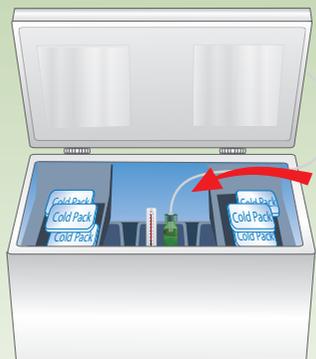


Vaccine Freezer Setup

1 Put cold packs in areas where vaccine should not be stored, including the freezer door and the top shelf.



Use a digital thermometer as the primary temperature gauge, and a liquid-filled or dial thermometer as the back-up.



In a chest freezer, place the digital thermometer probe and the back-up thermometer in the center, next to the vaccine.



In a combination freezer unit,* usable space is limited to inside the dashed lines.

3 Attach the display of the digital thermometer to the outside of the freezer, either on the door or on the side. Set the thermostat. Place a sign near the thermostat that says **Do not adjust the temperature controls. Notify Vaccine Coordinator if adjustment is necessary.**

4 Plug in the freezer. Secure with plug guard/cover. Post "Do Not Unplug" sign.

5 Set the freezer temperature:

- If the freezer has a thermostat, set it at 0°F/-18°C.
- If it has a dial with a number range, set it in the middle.

The next morning, check the temperature and adjust the dial until the temperature stabilizes at about 0°F/-18°C.

6 Once the temperature has stabilized, record temperature on the log twice per day. Do not store vaccine in the freezer until the temperature stays at about 0°F/-18°C for at least 48 hours.

*Although allowed by the CDC, evidence suggests that household combination units without separate temperature controls for the freezer and refrigerator compartments do not maintain adequate temperature in the freezer. Replace these units when possible.

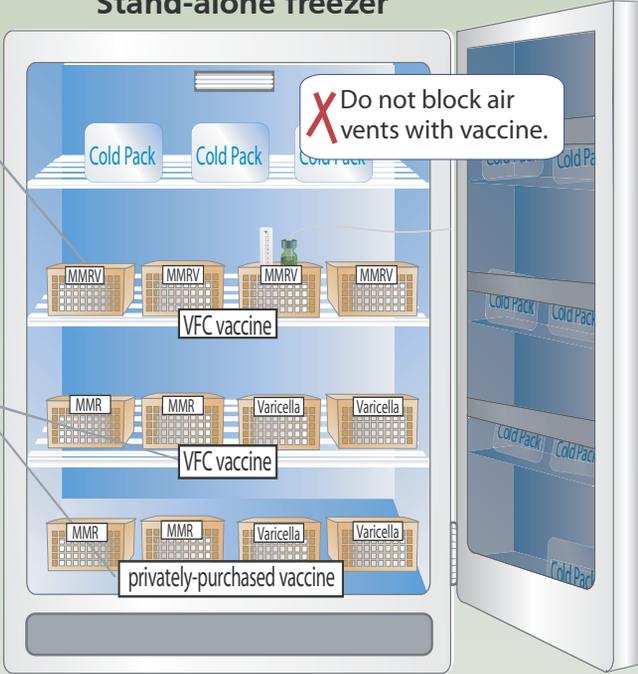
Storing Vaccine in a Freezer

Carefully organizing vaccine in a freezer helps protect it and facilitates inventory management. Freeze varicella, zoster, and MMRV. MMR may be refrigerated or frozen.

Stand-alone freezer

✓ Keep vaccine in original boxes, in breathable plastic mesh baskets, and clearly label baskets by type of vaccine.

✓ Separate VFC vaccine supply from privately-purchased vaccine.



✓ Place vaccine with shorter expiration dates towards front of shelf. If you have vaccine that will expire within 6 months and that you will not be using within that time, please notify the NYC VFC program.

Keep temperatures between -58°F and 5°F (-50°C and -15°C).

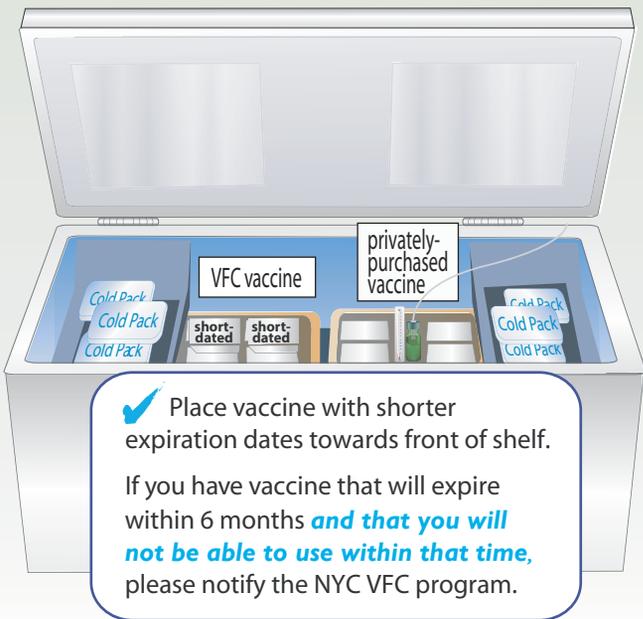
Aim for 0°F/-18°C and below

Colder is better.

Above 5°F/-15°C is too warm! Call VFC.

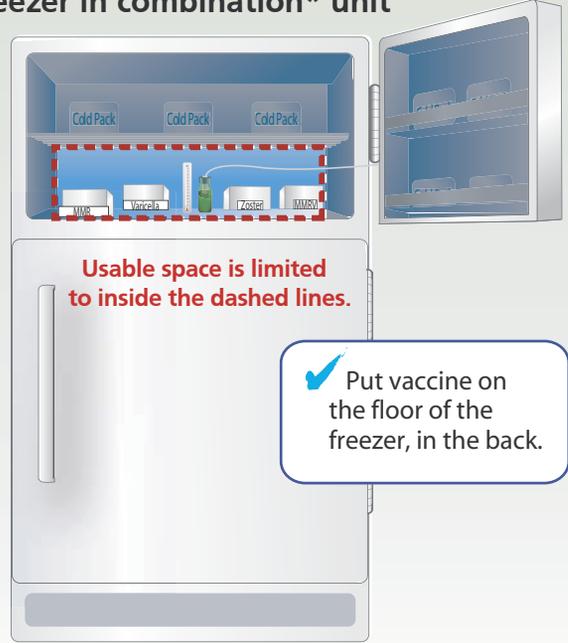
✗ No vaccine in doors.

Chest freezer



✓ Place vaccine with shorter expiration dates towards front of shelf. If you have vaccine that will expire within 6 months **and that you will not be able to use within that time**, please notify the NYC VFC program.

Freezer in combination* unit



✓ Put vaccine on the floor of the freezer, in the back.

Usable space is limited to inside the dashed lines.

If you have any problems with your freezer and/or VFC vaccine, please notify the NYC VFC program at 347-396-2405.

*Although allowed by CDC, evidence suggests that household combination units without separate temperature controls for the freezer and refrigerator compartments do not maintain adequate temperature in the freezer. Replace these units when possible.